**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Vadakkancheri):* What is the total number of the Committee?

**Mr. M. Sivarama Menon** *(Advocate-General):* The total number is 9.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Vadakkancheri):* We are told, two members of the committee took a definite attitude, another took a *via media* course—a very happy course—and the remaining six took up the definite attitude that such a thing is necessary.

**Mr. M. Sivarama Menon** *(Advocate-General):* Excepting the Chairman who did not vote but who reported to the Government his own opinion.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know who the Chairman is?

**Mr. M. Sivarama Menon** *(Advocate-General):* The Advocate-General himself.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Vadakkancheri):* Are the Government aware that want of stay on the lines indicated by a big majority of the committee works to the prejudice of hard-hit tenants of the State?

**Mr. M. Sivarama Menon** *(Advocate-General):* Government were not satisfied that a general stay recommended by the majority of the committee was desirable or necessary. But Government are considering whether there should be a partial stay. I was asked to consult the committee and we are on it now preparing a draft.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Vadakkancheri):* What exactly is the via media course adopted by that member?

**Mr. M. Sivarama Menon** *(Advocate-General):* The majority recommendation was that there should be a stay of all suits for renewal fees and decrees passed by court. The via media course was that there was no case for a general stay, but in cases where such real hardships have occurred, *e. g.* in the case of the Nerkanam tenant and cases where large kanam amounts have been advanced and cases where double amount of renewal fees that would have been paid under the Act of 1113 exceeds the Kanapattam by half in respect of those kanams which have been made permanent by that Act, these are the three classes recommended by that member. That is the only difference.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Vadakkancheri):* May I also enquire whether the Advocate-General to whom papers have been sent by the authorities will not apply "blitzerieg" upon the process of consideration of the papers?

**Mr. M. Sivarama Menon** *(Advocate-General):* Oh, Yes.

## SPEECH BY SIR VICTOR SASSOON—SHIP-BUILDING—PROSPECTS OF

**93. Mr. C. V. Iyyu** *(Kunnamkulam):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they have noted the portion of the speech of Sir Victor Sassoon delivered at Trivandrum on page 4 of the Mail dated 1st November 1943 referring to the prospect of Ship Building?

(*b*) whether Government be pleased to make further enquiries to explore the possibilities of (*i*) making boats out of the "Composit of Saw Dust" and (*ii*) the making of "prefabricated houses"?

**Mr. C. J. Mathew** *(Joint Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) No.

(*b*) No answer is necessary in view of the answer to (*a*).

**Mr. C. J. Mathew** *(Joint Secretary to Government):* With your permission, Sir, I would like to amend the answer as follows.—(*a*) "Yes" and (*b*) "Enquiries will be made".

## PAY OF EXCISE PEONS—DISBURSEMENT OF

**94. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Vadakkancheri):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the pay of the Excise peons for Chingam and Kanni 1119 was disbursed in time;

(*b*) if there was any delay what was the same due to?

**Mr. C. J. Mathew** *(Joint Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) There was delay for about one month in the disbursement of the Chingam pay only of some of the peons. There was no delay for payment of Kanni pay.

(*b*) The delay was due to interim correspondence with the Government in the matter of sanction of allotment for drawing the pay, etc., of the additional staff appointed for Price Control work.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know when exactly the pay was disbursed for the month of Chingam?

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